

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-11, 13-19, and 32-38. The Examiner has objected to claim 12, but stated that it would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The Examiner has allowed claims 20-31.

Applicants have canceled all of the rejected claims. Applicants have rewritten claim 12 including all of the limitations of claim 10, from which it originally depended. Applicants submit that claims 12 and 20-31 are now in allowable form and such allowance is respectfully requested.

The above-identified application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such allowance is courteously solicited. If any amendment is necessary to advance prosecution and place this case in allowable condition, the Examiner is courteously requested to contact the undersigned by fax or telephone at the number listed below.

Please charge any cost incurred in the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, along with any other costs, to Deposit Account No. 06-1510. If there are insufficient funds in this account, please charge the fees to Deposit Account No. 06-1505.

Respectfully submitted,



Diana D. Brehob  
Registration No. 51,496  
Agent for Applicants

Date: 18-May-2004  
Ford Global Technologies, Inc.  
600 Parklane Towers East  
Dearborn, Michigan 48126  
(313) 322-1879  
Fax: (313) 322-7162